

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10
DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-14 JUSE-00 NSAE-00
TRSE-00 NSC-05 OES-07 OMB-01 SSO-00 INRE-00
USIE-00 AGR-10 HEW-06 NSCE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 /107 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 127574

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION DECISION NOT
TO PERMIT COMMERCIAL CULTIVATION OF PAPAVER BRACTEATUM IN
THE UNITED STATES.

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON THIS
DECISION THAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO USIA AND THE VOICE OF
AMERICA FOR IMMEDIATE WORLDWIDE USE.

"AFTER THREE DAYS OF PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CONSULTATION WITH
KEY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, ADMINISTRATOR PETER B. BENSINGER
OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA), TODAY ANNOUNCED
THAT DEA HAS DECIDED NOT TO AUTHORIZE COMMERCIAL CULTIVA-
TION OF PAPAVER BRACTEATUM (THEBAINE POPPY) IN THE UNITED
STATES. 'THE UNITED STATES HAS TRADITIONALLY SET AN EXAMPLE
OF NON-PRODUCTION OF NARCOTIC PLANTS,' BENSINGER SAID.

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'WE CANNOT VERY WELL ASK FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS TO WORK TO
DIMINISH WORLDWIDE SUPPLIES OF ILLICIT NARCOTIC DRUGS AND
THEN CONTRIBUTE TO A WEAKENING OF INTERNATIONAL CONTROLS
BY ALLOWING COMMERCIAL CULTIVATION HERE.'

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OPPOSED DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL CULTIVA-
TION OF PAPAVER BRACTEATUM ON THE GROUNDS THAT SUCH CULTI-

VATION WOULD BE A CLEAR REVERSAL OF UNITED STATES POLICY

TO ABSTAIN FROM NARCOTIC RAW MATERIAL PRODUCTION AND WOULD HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTIC CONTROL EFFORTS. THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY A NUMBER OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS REGARDING THE IMPLICATIONS OF PAPAVER BRACTEATUM CULTIVATION FOR INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL WERE ALSO CAREFULLY CONSIDERED.

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE OPPOSED COMMERCIAL PAPAVER BRACTEATUM CULTIVATION AS UNNECESSARY IN LIGHT OF THE PRESENT WORLD SURPLUS OF NARCOTIC RAW MATERIALS FROM WHICH CODEINE AND THEBAINE DERIVED PRODUCTS CAN BE MANUFACTURED.

DR. PETER G. BOURNE, DIRECTOR OF THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF DRUG ABUSE POLICY, ADVISED THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS BRIEFED ON THIS MATTER BECAUSE OF HIS STRONG INTEREST IN THE NARCOTICS CONTROL PROBLEM. "

2. THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION IS RELEASING AT 6:30 A.M. WASHINGTON TIME JUNE 3 A PRESS RELEASE ON THIS DECISION WHICH IS BASICALLY SIMILAR TO THE TEXT QUOTED ABOVE.

3. THE DEA PROPOSAL TO PERMIT DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL CULTIVATION OF THE BRACTEATUM POPPY, WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER LAST NOVEMBER. HAS BEEN FOLLOWED WITH CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD. A UNCLASSIFIED

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NUMBER OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR STRONG INTEREST AND CONCERN BOTH IN BILATERAL REPRESENTATIONS TO THE UNITED STATES AND IN DEBATES IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AND THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, WHERE THE ISSUE OF WORLD SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR NARCOTIC RAW MATERIALS ARE DISCUSSED. THE FOLLOWING MISSIONS SHOULD IMMEDIATELY TAKE STEPS TO TO BRING THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATOR'S DECISION PROMPTLY TO THE DIRECT ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE FOREIGN OFFICIALS, USING THE ABOVE QUOTED TEXT: ANKARA, BANGKOK, MEXICO, OTTAWABOGOTA, LA PAZ, LIMA, NEW DELHI, ISLAMABAD, RANGOON, BELGRADE KABUL, QUITO, CARACAS, BUCHAREST, BRASILIA, MANILA, BUENOS AIRES, BONN, ROME, STOCKHOLM, BRUSSELS, OSLO, TOKYO PARIS, AND GENEVA FOR UN DRUG AGENCIES.

4. OTHER MISSIONS SHOULD TAKE WHATEVER ACTION THEY DEEM APPROPRIATE.

5. PARTICULARLY WITH THOSE GOVERNMENTS WHICH ARE KNOWN TO BE MOST CONCERNED ABOUT THIS QUESTION, YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT IN THIS DECISION THE UNITED STATES HAS GIVEN PRIORITY OVER DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL CONSIDERATIONS TO THE GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN INTEREST IN LIMITING THE SUPPLIES OF NARCOTIC RAW MATERIALS, THUS AVOIDING THE RISKS OF INCREASED ILLICIT TRAFFIC AND DRUG ABUSE THAT WOULD RESULT FROM EXCESS WORLD NARCOTICS PRODUCTION.

6. PLEASE REPORT ANY SIGNIFICANT REACTION.

7. PASS AND INSTRUCT CONSULS AS APPROPRIATE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Message ID: 47f64086-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2299702
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